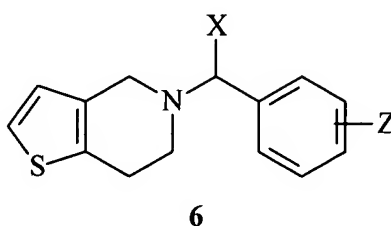


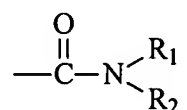
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

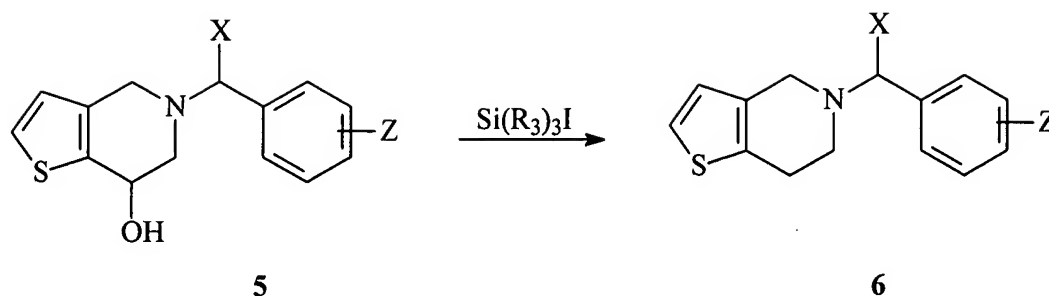
1. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of tetrahydrothieno[3,2-c]pyridine compound of formula 6:



or their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, wherein the meaning of X is carboxyl, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, or carbamoyl of formula



wherein R₁ and R₂ can be individually or simultaneously hydrogen, or alkyl ~~or part of a heterocyclic structure~~; Z can be hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, aryl, aryloxy or alkoxy group, the process comprising conducting a dehydroxylation reaction on the compound of formula 5 in order to obtain a compound of formula 6, wherein said dehydroxylation reaction is effected by iodosilane represented by the formula Si(R₃)₃I, wherein R₃ selected from an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or aromatic group, ~~or combinations of thereof~~.



2. (original) The process of Claim 1 wherein said iodosilane is iodosilane (TMSI).

3. (currently amended) The process of Claim 1 or 2 wherein said iodosilane is generated *in situ* in the reaction between chlorosilanes of formula $\text{Si(R}_4\text{)}_3\text{Cl}$ and sodium iodide, wherein R_4 is selected from an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or aromatic group, ~~or combinations thereof.~~

4. (original) The process of Claim 3 wherein said chlorosilanes is chlorotrimethylsilane.

5. (original) The process of Claim 1 wherein the compound of formula 6 is racemic or enantiomerically enriched Clopidogrel or pharmaceutical salts thereof.

6. (original) The process of Claim 1 or 2 wherein the compound of formula 5 is in a free base form or in a salt form.

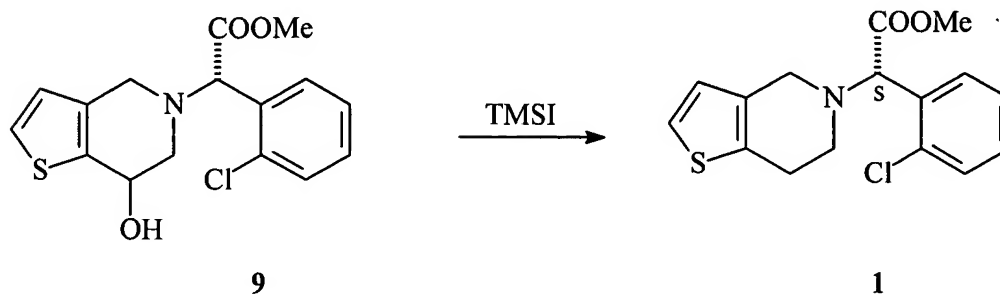
7. (original) The process of Claim 1 wherein the reaction is conducted under a polar aprotic solvent, an aromatic solvent, or mixtures thereof.

8. (original) The process of Claim 7 wherein the polar aprotic solvent is selected from acetonitrile, CH_2Cl_2 , *N, N'*-dimethylformamide and combinations thereof.

9. (currently amended) The process of Claim 7 wherein the aromatic solvent is ~~selected from toluene and equivalent thereof.~~

10. (previously amended) A process for the preparation of compound of formula 1 or its pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, comprising conducting a

dehydroxylation reaction on the compound of formula 9 or its salts thereof, wherein said dehydroxylation reaction is effected by iodotrimethylsilane (TMSI)



11. (original) The process of Claim 10 wherein the reaction is conducted under a polar aprotic solvent, an aromatic solvent, or mixtures thereof.

12. (original) The process of Claim 11 wherein the polar aprotic solvent is selected from acetonitrile, CH_2Cl_2 , *N,N'*-dimethylformamide and combinations thereof.

13. (currently amended) The process of Claim 11 wherein the aromatic solvent is selected from toluene and equivalent thereof.